

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /167 W

----- 096908

R 161510Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6288

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: EEC ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENTS: REVERSE

PREFERENCES

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IN
BRUSSELS ARE CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF THE REVERSE
PREFERENCES ISSUE IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFTING THE EC
OPENING STATEMENT FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
YAOUNOE ASSOCIATES AND ASSOCIABLES. IT IS NOT CLEAR,
HOWEVER, WHETHER THE EC OPPONENTS OF REVERSE PREFERENCES
EXPECT THESE DISCUSSIONS TO AGREE ON SOME
GENERAL FORMULATION, IN LIGHT OF THEIR APPARENT
STRATEGY OF LEAVING THE RECIPROCITY ISSUE OPEN UNTIL
THE ASSOCIATES HAVE BEEN HEARD FROM IN THE NEGOTIATIONS

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THEMSELVES. (FRG REPRESENTATIVES STILL MAINTAIN THAT

ANY GENERAL EC AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE WITH REGARD TO THE YAOUNDE STATES WOULD BE APPLIED TO THE MAGHREB STATES AS WELL.)

2. WHILE THE FRG MAINTAINS ITS BASIC POSITION AGAINST REVERSE PREFERENCES, WE HAVE HEARD SOME DISCUSSION HERE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMULATING AN AGREED EC POSITION ALONG LINES SIMILAR TO ARTICLE 3 OF THE SECOND YAOUNDE CONVENTION (WHICH STATES THAT EACH ASSOCIATE CAN MAINTAIN OR APPLY, VIZ A VIZ THE EC, TARIFFS OR FISCAL DUTIES OF COMPARABLE EFFECT IF REQUIRED BY DEVELOPMENT OR BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS.) A NEW FORMULATION, ACCORDING TO SOME SOURCES IN BONN, MIGHT STATE THAT ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENTS ARE AGREEMENTS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY, BUT IN FACT ASSOCIATES COULD DECIDE NOT TO APPLY DUTY CONCESSIONS VIZ A VIZ THE COMMUNITY FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.

3. SUBSEQUENT TO LEARNING THAT THE DESIRABILITY OF SUCH A FORMULATION WAS UNDER DISCUSSION IN BONN, WE HAVE MADE REPRESENTATIONS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND ECONOMICS MINISTRY. WE HAVE REITERATED THE U.S. POSITION ON REVERSE PREFERENCES AND URGED THE FRG TO STICK TO A POSITION ADVOCATING AN EC DECISION IN PRINCIPLE THAT NO RECIPROCITY SHOULD BE REQUIRED FROM ASSOCIATED STATES. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THIS REMAINS THE FRG POSITION. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THERE DOES SEEM TO BE A GROWING DESIRE HERE TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE OF PRINCIPLE WITH THE FRENCH RATHER THAN LEAVING IT OPEN FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD DURING ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATES.
HILLENBRAND

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